

2012-103 AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES—Los Angeles Unified School District—Abuse Claims

The audit by the State Auditor's Office will provide independently developed and verified information related to claims of abuse against students in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.
2. Determine how the LAUSD communicates its policies and procedures related to misconduct involving a student to schools within the district, and with what frequency these policies and procedures are updated and distributed.
3. Review and assess the type, frequency, and duration of training the LAUSD provides or requires district employees to take on the prevention, identification, and reporting of misconduct involving a student. In addition, determine the extent to which the LAUSD monitors and oversees any training requirements.
4. Determine if the LAUSD and a sample of six school sites within the district are following any applicable laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures, as well as best practices related to:
 - a. Handling a claim of misconduct involving a student once it is received.
 - b. Investigating allegations of misconduct involving a student, including the disposition of these cases.
 - c. Notifying the parents or guardians, law enforcement, employee unions, and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing that an allegation of misconduct involving a student has been made. In addition, identify the point at which these notifications are made by the LAUSD and the school sites.
 - d. Removing offending employees from the school site.
 - e. Notifying other school districts about employees who have pending investigations or past substantiated allegations of misconduct involving a student when an employee separates from a school district.
 - f. Monitoring employees that the LAUSD has found to have engaged in misconduct to ensure that similar instances do not reoccur.
 - g. Tracking claims of misconduct involving students.
 - h. Providing resources to employees, parents and/or guardians, and students to aid them in identifying, reporting, and preventing abuse.

5. If the LAUSD and the school sites do not track claims of misconduct involving a student and/or do not have policies and procedures in place to monitor employees found to have engaged in misconduct involving a student, obtain the reasons why.
6. To the extent possible, assess whether the LAUSD has entered into any settlement agreements for claims or lawsuits filed alleging misconduct involving a student. If so, determine the disposition for each matter and the total dollar amount of these settlements over the past five years. Determine if notice about a settlement involving misconduct is required to be provided to the parent or guardian of the student, and, if so, if all appropriate protocols were followed.
7. Determine if the LAUSD has a whistleblower protection program that complies with applicable laws. If the LAUSD has such a program, determine if it is following its procedures, including those related to allegations of misconduct involving a student.
8. Review and assess any other issues that are significant to the LAUSD as they relate to claims of misconduct involving a student.